



SCOUTS'

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

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Scout Families,

Welcome to the first chapter of the SCOUT FAMILYGRAM. It is my hope that the format you see here is one that will allow all our family and friends at home get a taste of how every shop is doing and allow Sailors the ability to, if desired, throw in small individualized messages to loved ones back home.

Having been at sea for one month and two fantastic port visits, I am happy to report the squadron is doing an incredible job. All of your Sailor's hard work and dedication to prepare this squadron to be ready for deployment paid off. Our transition to the ship went extremely well and we were ready for action on day one. It has been a pleasure and privilege to watch the Scout team come together and meet every challenge associated with the monumental task of preparing a squadron to go to sea. Each and every one of you should be extremely proud of the tremendous job your

Sailors are doing out here.

That leads to the next side of the story. The tremendous efforts that all of you are doing back home. We could not do our jobs out here if not for all that you do back home to keep our lives grounded and allow us that sacred place we know we will get to return to once our task here is complete. Thank you for all you do; for every e-mail you send, every smiling picture we see, every package full of famous Chocolate Chip cookies that shows up serves as a reminder of home, a reminder of what is so important to us and a reminder of why we are willing to sacrifice, and ask our families to sacrifice, so that we can defend this great nation we all love so much. Please keep it all coming because it really does make a difference.

A small note on e-mails; as many of you probably have already experienced, our ability to transmit and receive e-mails out here is somewhat limited. Of late, the ship has had difficulty sending and receiving e-mails. A large part of this

problem has been the size of files leaving and coming to the ship that have overloaded the ship's server. The ship's data processing folks have asked everyone to limit the size of files that are sent to and from the ship. A good rule of thumb would be, send as many text e-mails as you like. They should get through fairly easily. If you are sending photos, please limit it to one photo per e-mail and try to keep the photo file size to less than 1MB. If we all do that, it will make the process work much better. Even doing that, as I mentioned at the pre-deployment briefing back in June, there may be delays in sending and receiving e-mail. Please do not worry if you haven't heard from your Sailor in a day or two. It may be simply that e-mail is not working well.

With that I will close for now and allow you to enjoy this first take on the SCOUT FAMILYGRAM. I hope you enjoy it and if you have suggestions on how we can improve it, please take the time to get feedback to your Sailor and we will try and incorporate as many

improvements as possible. Thank you again for all your support and never forget; SCOUTS RULE!!

Skipper Grieco

Congratulations Chiefs



PAO

The Scouts left home a week earlier than expected, pulling out of Norfolk on September the first. The Scouts successfully carrier qualified thirteen pilots on the first day of flight operations. This was a tribute to one of the hardest working maintenance departments in the Navy. After our successful CQ, we continued building our skills by training and fixing any issues with the jets incurred during flight operations. After the rest of Air Wing Eight finished CQ, we proceeded on our long six-day trip across the Atlantic Ocean. These long days were filled with training and maintenance on the aircraft.

We then arrived at our destination off the coast of Southern Spain. All the aircrew flew again over the next three days to re-qualify around the boat. The Theodore Roosevelt then passed through the Straits of Gibraltar, taking us into the Mediterranean Sea. Following one more day of flight operations, we made our first highly

anticipated port call.

The Scouts rolled into Palma, Spain on the 12th of September. For four days the Scouts took part in many activities including swimming, snorkeling, SCUBA diving, paddle boating, wind surfing, and shopping. There were several tours provided by the MWR that traveled all over the island, and the Scouts definitely took advantage. On the 16th, we headed back out into the Mediterranean to once again qualify the aviators in a carrier environment. Flying for two more days, the Scouts performed outstanding once again, even through thunderstorms and driving rain.

The following Monday gave way to another port call, this time leading us to Naples, Italy. Once again, the MWR offered many Sailors' tours all throughout southern Italy. Some Scouts took their own tours traveling to such places as Pompeii, Florence, Rome, Sorrento, Venice, Capri and many other locations. Thursday the 23rd, the Scouts pulled back into the Mediterranean for the long anticipated "real" start to cruise, as we prepared to transit the Suez Canal.

LTJG SNAKENBERG



ADMIN. DEPT

The Administrative Department is working hard around the clock to

give the best possible administrative support to VS-24 personnel. The Department's Dream Team consists of LCDR Eanes, Admin Officer; LT Schroeder, Assistant Admin Officer; LTJG Snakenberg, PAO; NCC Timmons, Admin Leading Chief Petty Officer; PN1 Harris, Admin Leading Petty Officer; YN1 Nelson, DK2 Punongbayan, PN3 Lookfong, PN3 Moody, and AN Rodriguez. First Lieutenant consists of LT Larson, 1st LT Officer and ADP Officer; SH2 Ferguson, AN North, and AN Hamilton. In ADP we have IT2 Punch and IT2 Smith. The Department is multifaceted, flawlessly maintaining more than 240 personnel records, while providing support in pay related issues. VS-24 Admin is a customer service oriented Department. Our motto, "**People First, Mission Always.**" Being embarked on board the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT (CVN 71) thus far has been an exciting experience for the Admin Team and we look forward to the road ahead. We are gladly serving our country's combat fighting team with Honor, Courage, and Commitment. **Scouts Rule!**

PN1 HARRIS

MAINTENANCE DEPT

AT SHOP

Wow! It's time for the first installment of the squadron's newsletter. It seems like we just left. Well, all of us would like to say Hello to all the families and friends of the VS-24 Avionics shop. As usual the AT's

are keeping busy with work and a little help from Anthony's movies on hard drive. Al has stepped in as the LPO and hit the ground running. A long awaited change, he is doing a great job, keeping up morale levels with his cheeky demeanor and reality checks. Working the dayshift is Robert, who has mastered the codes of the crazy-10, Julius who has mastered the Star Wars duty, Williams has become quite the maintenance technician, and Anthony and April, the shooters, launching planes off the deck. Night check, where the real work gets done, is led by Carlos, always ready to tell a story or two. In addition Kevin is our newest CDI and shooter, James is having skateboarding withdrawals and needs Tony Hawk Pro Skater. Eric M. is still the quiet, shy guy who runs from the limelight and monitors the nightly troubleshooting. Our newest addition to the shop is Steven, who is back from his laid back TAD tour. He has proven he still remembers how to work and fix aircraft. Mike is keeping the peace and regulating down on the mess decks. Daniel and Eric F. are keeping the trash on the T.R. under control. Tywan is doing well with wardroom maid service. Lastly is Jason the Avionics Branch Chief. "I have never been happier to work with such a junior bunch of trouble shooter and maintainers. This bunch always gets the job done." The AT shop family would just like to say that we miss you all and love you very much.

ATC KELLY

To family and friends
back home:

Anthony to Hanna: Though you are not here, you are in my heart and prayers. I love you Sweetie!!

Robert to Devon: I love and miss you. Take care of Robby.

Jason to Kathryn, Kyle, and Ashton: You are my inspiration and keep me going. I love and miss you.

Carlos to Ana, Jacob, Bryan, and Mia: I think of you guys at every second of the day. I love and miss you all.

Mami, Papi y Jorge: Los amo y los extraño.

Mike to Renee and the 6pack: I love you all and miss you so very much. You all are in my heart and dreams. I think of you all the time. Thank you for being there for me and soon I'll be home. Hugs and Kisses for all. LUL, MUM, URSSFLATS, smile big.

AE SHOP

Greetings from the Electrical Branch! Life is as good as can be expected while at sea. We have just finished up our second port visit in less than two weeks, so our feet are tired and our wallets are empty. We have had our fun now it is time to hit the trail running. The next few weeks should prove to be a good test of our abilities and an opportunity for us to demonstrate what we have worked so hard to accomplish. We would all like to thank our families and friends back home for the love and support. Please keep the care packages coming!

AE 1 FOLEY

QA

"In God we trust, all others we monitor", a motto well fitting to the studious individuals that make up our Quality Assurance department. Our ringleader LCDR Russ Van Diepen, QAO, leads the pack. Though new to the work center, he has hit the deck running, demonstrating extreme attention to detail and perseverance in abundance. We in QA would like to also welcome to our winning team AM1(AW) Ronald Havens, AO1(AW) Andrea Martinez and AD1(AW) Brian Dubose. All of these distinguished First Class Petty Officers have more than demonstrated their worthiness of being a representative for the prospective rates and being a part of a prosperous QA team. But with new QARs assigned to QA, there are a few old QARs to bid farewell. AD1(AW) King and AM1(AW) Fontaine have served us well, and will be missed. So back into the ranks of their specialty shops they go; good luck fellas.

We want to give congratulations to one of our newest Chief Petty Officers, ATC(AW) Bill Rhodes, our AT QAR. Well deserving of his new uniform, Chief Rhodes was already a QAR before making chief. But even though he is one of our new chiefs, we still have within our sanctuary one of VS-24's finest Chief Petty Officers, often imitated but never duplicated, ATC(AW) Mark Runyan, our QAS. The QA family is thinking of our families at home.

Know all at home, we are monitoring everyone here ensuring the highest of standards are met and our mission is complete.

AZ 2 DUFFY

ORDNANCE

Hello from the world famous Scout Ordnance shop!

First of all I would like to take a minute and say hello from all of us. We hope that this letter finds you all in good spirits and health.

The Scout Ordnance shop has had a few new members added to it since the last newsletter. We would like to say welcome aboard to the following AO's: AO1(AW) McClain, AOAN Marks and AOAN Kyle. AO1 McClain has stepped in and taken over as the new Scout Ordnance Leading Petty Officer. AOAN Marks and AOAN Kyle joined us just prior to our deployment from AO "A" school. They are a welcome addition to the shop. Since they checked in they have completed their Flight Deck Familiarization, Brake Rider and are working on several other PQS's.

We also have a couple of added family members to our small Ordnance family. AO2 (AW) Price and his wife had a baby boy and AO3 (AW) Williams and his wife had a baby boy as well. We are sorry that they didn't get much time to get acquainted with them, but I'm sure they will make up for it when they return. Our best wishes go out to the new mothers.

From the entire Ordnance shop we would like to send out all the best wishes and blessings to all that read this newsletter. God bless and

have a wonderful day.

AOCS SWANSON

CORROSION

Hey what's up guys, how are you doing? We're entering our fourth week of deployment. We have to admit it has been a little rough working on aircraft without the luxuries we've come to be accustomed to; you guys and girls back there. On a brighter note we've just left our second port call with new memories that we cannot wait to get back and share, with many members of our newly formed Corrosion team AM1(AW) Tarvit, AM3 Conyers, AT3 Gordon, AD3 Levy, AMEAN Vernotzy, and the Previous existing members AM2(AW) Becca, AO3 Nipper, and AN Pena.

We've spent our underway period thus far utilizing our time for training and special projects. This cruise will definitely be a learning experience for all hands consisting of new ideas, tools, and techniques to improve our squadron capabilities, bringing us home to you quicker, safer and more knowledgeable. From us to you, take care we miss you.

AM 1 TARVIT

AIRFRAMES

Hello to all the Family and Friends of the Mighty Scout Airframes Shop! We are trying to make the best of our last cruise for VS-24. The Mighty S-3B is not going away without a fight. These eight aging airframes are keeping us very busy. The Day Check Warriors are AM1 Fontaine (LPO), AM2 Kindig, AM2

Lackey, AM2 Bressler, AM3 White, AMAN Spicer, and AMAA Peterson. Our Night check owls are AM1 Lorts, AM2 Schultz, AM2 Peralta, AM3 Ernest, AM3 Walsh, AM3 Lavallee, and AM3 Diage. We have AMAN Carranza temporarily, assigned in the Chief's mess. He comes in to visit from time to time. These guys definitely enjoyed their time in Palma, Spain on our first port visit. The food and the sites were awesome. And right on top of that one, we visited Naples, Italy. We sure had a great time there also. From the day-to-day grind of the flight schedule, and the endless hours of work we are doing, we are keeping our "Heads on a swivel". Our number one priority out here is to bring everybody home safely. From everybody in the Airframes shop, we miss you, and keep those care packages, letters, and email coming!!!

AM 1 LORTS



Hard at work on the Flight Deck

MECH SHOP

Hello to all of our family and friends from the Scout Mech Shop. Currently at the helm of the shop is AD1(AW) David King, with the passing of the torch from one of the Scouts new CPO's, ADC(AW) Gromelski. We all come to work with our bright and shiny faces excited to e-mail our loved ones, just

to find out the day/night shift are all using the computers. In the end, everyone gets a chance to hear from their loved ones, making it all worthwhile. The shop currently consists of AD1(AW) Cody Snellman, leading the night shift, AD2(AW) Tony Berthelot, AD2 Emmanuel Netto, AD2 Matthew Self, AD2 Juan Ilovares, AD2 Anthony Labbruzzo, AD3 Andres Polifroni, ADAN Terrance Wade, and AN Brandon Vanhoy. As most know we have enjoyed two ports already, one of them being in Palma, Spain and the other Naples, Italy.

Although we were in port, there was no rest for the weary. With jets that needed to be fixed, so the aircrew could fly, we alternated between work and play to get the job done. Eventually everyone managed to get some much needed time off and enjoy a little rest and relaxation in some exotic locations. Everyone in the shop seemed to have the same answer when asked if they had anything to add, so here it is: "From me to you. I want you to know that you are in my heart and in my mind. I think of you always and look forward to the time when we will see each other again. Till that time arrives, know that I love you, I miss you, and please remember stay positive and focus toward that day of reunion, for it is the day we dream toward."

AD 1 SNELLMAN

BUDDY STORES

Greetings to our families and friends back home. With completing our second port visit here in

Naples Italy, the guys of buddy stores have been doing very well out here. We have been busy working around the clock to ensure that our jets are able to do their jobs in transferring fuel to our air wing, which to this date has been around 137,000 lbs of fuel. Lately we have been knocking out qualifications for each and every person to become a greater asset to the shop as well as getting back into the groove of sea life again.

Not too long ago we had AD3 Colson, AM3 McDaniel, AE3 Holman and AMAN Mckenzie take the exams for promotion and hopefully by the time we come back they will have been selected for advancement and get that extra stripe. As we begin to head out to relieve the USS NIMITZ we will continue to strive to do our best and keep our stores operating to ensure our squadron maintains its mission in supporting the War on Terrorism. We miss you and love you all back home. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Please keep the e-mail, letters and care packages coming. Nothing brightens our day more than receiving a little piece of home out here. Until next time...

The World's Greatest
Buddy Store shop

AD 3 ROOT



Another drill

To family and friends back home:

Time is going by fast and before you know it I'll be back home. Be safe and take care.

Love Always,
Richard

I miss you all very much back home and wish we could be together again. Time is passing and soon enough I'll be back. You are all in my thoughts and prayers and I can't wait until I see you all.

Take care and keep in touch.
Love Always,
James

AME/PR SHOP

Greetings to all the families and friends from the Sailors working in the PR/AME shop. Your Sailors have been hard at work as we crossed the Atlantic. All the non-flying days were well utilized to earn some valuable qualifications. AME2(AW) Sanchez, AME2(AW) Walls, AME3 Williams, and AME3 Drummond all qualified as aircraft final checkers. Overall it was a relaxing trip "across the pond" and we are now 100% ready to go when the time comes to start our operations over here. We would all like to congratulate Tyson and Gentry Drummond on the birth of their baby boy. Thankfully he arrived in the world just prior to deployment so he got to know his dad for a little bit before we left. We have now enjoyed some well-deserved time off in Palma de Mallorca, Spain and Naples, Italy.

All of us here want you folks back at home to know that you are what keeps us going out here.

Please know that even if you don't get an e-mail or a phone call as often as you would like, you are always on our minds.

Sincerely,
PR1(AW) Turner
AME1(AW) Galloway
AME2(AW) Walls
AME2 Byrd
AME2(AW) Sanchez
AME2(AW) Tackett
PR2 Blenkhorn
AME3 Ellis
AME3 Williams
AME3 Drummond
PR3 Peters
AMEAN Puckett
AMEAN Scott
AMEAN Mayberry
PRAN Gulley



Us at the Vatican

LINE SHACK

Hello to all from the World Famous VS-24 Line Division. The Scout Line Shack has been very busy the first month of cruise. We have had a lot of turnover in the division starting with the departure of ADC Willie Robertson. We were all sad to see "Chief Rob" leave, but are also very excited about the arrival of a Line Division veteran, ADC Dominic Gromelski. "Ski" comes to the Line as a former Line Division LPO and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience. Our current Line LPO is AD1 Kenneth Smith and our night check supervisor is AD1 Roy Ceneno. Both AD1's bring excellent leadership to

the Line for some young Scouts. These young Scouts have been working very hard on personal qualifications during "no fly" days while the ship did its transit of the Atlantic Ocean. AE3 Jose Saballos and AN Rabindra Persaud worked extremely hard to receive their Plane Captain qualifications. To receive this "qual" both Sailors had to complete an extensive syllabus that included, required reading, hours of training on the flight deck, a written exam and a very difficult Plane Captain Board. Four other Scouts from the Line Division completed APU training and received their APU turn qualification. The APU or Auxiliary Power Unit provides cooling and electrical power to the aircraft without the engines turning. This allows maintenance personal to do much needed work on our 8 S-3B Vikings. The four outstanding young Scouts that received this qualification were AN James Foster, Phillip Williams, Edgar Robles and Dereck Sells. When the Line Division was not working on personal qualifications, we were doing what we do best, launching and recovering aircraft from the USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT. To help with this hard work, the Line welcomed three new faces to the division, AE3 Jacob Trimbath, AME3 Tyson Drummond, and AN Joshua Worsham. After all of these long days, we got some much-needed liberty on the beautiful Mediterranean island of Mallorca. The Scouts relaxed on the beaches of Palma, ate some good food and recharged their batteries for the days

ahead at sea. Once we pulled out of Palma, we flew a few days and then were back in port in Naples, Italy. Here, Scouts from the Line took MWR tours to Rome where they saw the Coliseum and the Vatican City. We are all working extremely hard and enjoying some great liberty ports but everyone misses their friends and family. Hope everyone is doing well and please keep the emails and packages coming.

LT Hart

